



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

ment. Historically, there is nothing new in this survey of the Constitution, since Mr. Taylor follows Stubbs and Freeman quite closely. But written from the point of view which he represents, our author has put many things in a new light. The work is a credit to American scholarship, and no student of American institutions can afford to pass it by.

J. L. S.

---

ESSAYS ON GOVERNMENT. By A. LAWRENCE LOWELL.  
Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Pp.  
229. 1890.

These are five essays dealing with as many phases of political thought; three bear directly or indirectly on the government of the United States, the others bear upon the theory of the social compact and the limits of sovereignty. The first essay, on "Cabinet Responsibility and the Constitution," deserves especial notice, since we hear nowadays so much of the wisdom of giving to cabinet officers seats in Congress, and making our government approach more nearly the parliamentary system of England. In this essay Mr. Lowell compares the English and American forms of government for the purpose of showing that their natures are radically different; and he attempts to prove that cabinet responsibility, the central feature of the English system, is not in harmony with our own institutions, and could not be introduced into the United States without destroying the entire fabric of the Constitution. The second essay, on "Democracy and the Constitution," is a farther comparison of the English and American forms of government for the purpose of considering the effect that each of them is adapted to produce in a democratic country upon the limitation of popular power and the protection of private rights, and from this point of view an inquiry is made into the structure of our government and the laws of its organic life. The third essay, on "The Responsibility of American Lawyers," was originally written for a law review, and treats of the legal profession in our political system.

In the last two essays the limitation of political power is considered from a philosophical standpoint. The first of these deals only with the theory of the social compact, but is almost equivalent to a sketch of the history of modern political philosophy to the end of the Tenth Century. The final essay, upon the abstract doctrine of the limitation of sovereignty, is intended chiefly for students of jurisprudence.

J. L. S.

---

THE STATE. ELEMENTS OF HISTORICAL AND PRACTICAL POLITICS. A SKETCH OF INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY AND ADMINISTRATION. By WOODROW WILSON, Ph.D., LL.D. Author of "Congressional Government." Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. Pp. 686. 1889.

Dr. Wilson's book is an attempt to compress into one treatise an account of the political institutions of all times, as well as an epitome of political history. The growing interest in the study of political science in American colleges rendered it necessary that a text-book of the scope and purpose of this work should be prepared by a student of politics who understood the condition of the teaching of that subject in our educational institutions. That this book enters into the spirit of the teaching of politics, and that the author understands its difficulties, can be seen from the great care he has taken to present the subject in such a way as best to meet the needs and necessities of the case. There is a great deal in the book, probably too much for a text-book, but Dr. Wilson has so arranged his matter that good results may be obtained by an instructor who is in sympathy with political studies and understands the bearing of historical facts.

The first two chapters of the book are taken up with a discussion of the probable origin of government and its early development. The governments of Greece and of Rome, the influence of Roman dominion and Roman law, and the Teutonic polity and government during the middle ages, completes the survey of ancient and mediæval